

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KINGST 04387 071909Z

42

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 ARAE-00 STR-04 AGR-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05

CIEP-01 SS-15 TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02

FEAE-00 OMB-01 /100 W

----- 049725

P R 071300Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9348

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KINGSTON 4387

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, ETRO, JM

SUBJECT: JAMAICAN RICE QUOTA

REF: (A) STATE 254734; (B) KINGSTON 4230

1. ECONOFF PERSONALLY DISCUSSED ALL POINTS REFTTEL (A) WITH TRADE UNDER SECRETARY WILSON NOVEMBER 6. WILSON STATED COMMODITY ARRANGEMENT ON RICE WITH GUYANA DATED FROM EARLY 1960'S, AND ARRANGEMENT "IN SPIRIT OF CARICOM" WHICH PLEDGED TO INCREASE INTRA-REGIONAL TRADE AMONG ITS MEMBERS. GUYANA RICE SUPPLY HAD NOT BEEN SUFFICIENT UNTIL RECENTLY TO MEET CARICOM COMMITMENTS AND GOJ HAD LOOKED TO U.S. TO MAKE UP SHORTFALLS. WILSON RECOGNIZES ARGUMENT THAT U.S. RICE NOT COMPETING DIRECTLY WITH GUYANESE PRODUCT SINCE IT IS HIGHER QUALITY, BUT RULED OUT LICENSE FOR REMAINDER OF 1975. HE DID INDICATE POSSIBILITY LICENSE FOR U.S.

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RICE MIGHT BE ISSUED NEXT YEAR TO SUPPLY TOURIST MARKET.

GOJ HAD NOT BEEN INVOLVED WITH GATT ON RICE SINCE IN PAST
GUYANA UNABLE MEET COMMITMENTS AND AS RESULT MARKET OPEN TO
U.S. AND OTHERS. WILSON COMMENTED THAT THIS "SEEMED TO BE
A GOOD YEAR FOR RICE" SINCE GOJ HAD ALSO RECEIVED OFFER
FROM COLOMBIA. HE ALSO GAVE ECONOFF COPY OF ARTICLE
WRITTEN BY ED COLLINS, FAS, CARIBBEAN ISLANDS OFFER FARM
EXPORT OPPORTUNITIES, WHICH STATED JAMAICA SECOND BEST
MARKET (FARM PRODUCTS) FOR U.S. AFTER DR IN CARIBBEAN,
AND THAT 1974 IMPORTS OF U.S. FARM PRODUCTS WERE \$83 MILLION
WITH CORN AND WHEAT AT TOP OF LIST. WILSON SAID IT WAS
POSSIBLE GROWN RICE WITHIN REGION BUT NOT CORN OR WHEAT,
AND WONDERED WHY IN VIEW OF ABOVE, RICHE SHOULD BE OF SUCH
CONCERN.

2. COMMENT: WILSON SYMPATHETIC TO U.S. POSITION, BUT
INDICATED PROBLEM UNLIKELY BE RESOLVED UNTIL GOJ BALANCE-
OF-PAYMENTS POSITION EASED AND/OR GUYANA AGAIN UNABLE SUPPLY
JAMAICAN MARKET.
GERARD

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 07 NOV 1975
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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06 JUL 2006

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